

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 COME-00 /074 W

----- 094095

R 281305Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6631

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABANE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

A/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA 2091

USUN NEW YORK 252

C O N F I D E N T I A L GABORONE 0701

E.O. 11652: GDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, BC, SF, WA, OAU

SUBJECT: BOTSWANA'S REACTION TO VORSTER'S NAMIBIA SPEECH

REF: GABORONE 0547

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

1. MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MOGWE TOLD ME MAY 28
THAT HE HAD NOT STUDIED PRIME MINISTER VORSTER'S WINDHOEK SPEECH
ON NAMIBIA BUT THOUGHT IT WAS LACKING IN SPECIFICS.

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2. MOGWE SAID HE WAS NOT CONVINCED THAT VORSTER INTENDED TO

DEPART FROM THE CONCEPT OF SEPARATE MULTI-NATIONAL STATES IN NAMIBIA. MOGWE FELT THAT VORSTER SHOULD FIRST MAKE ABSOLUTELY CLEAR THAT HE FAVORS INDEPENDENCE FOR NAMIBIA AS A UNITARY STATE AND SET A TIMETABLE. HE SAID THAT VORSTER SHOULD THEN INVITE THE OAU COMMITTEE TO TALK ABOUT SPECIFIC PROBLEMS SUCH AS GETTING THE VARIOUS POLITICAL GROUPS TO COOPERATE IN NAMIBIA, MAKING IT CLEAR THAT SWAPO COULD ALSO PARTICIPATE.

3. MOGWE SAID THE OAU SHOULD PURSUE THE SAME KIND OF STRATEGY IN NAMIBIA THAT IS BEING USED IN RHODESIA; THE VARIOUS POLITICAL GROUPINGS SHOULD BE UNITED. MOGWE THOUGHT SWAPO SHOULD BACK A WAY FROM THE POSITION THAT IT IS THE EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE FOR NAMIBIA. MOGWE TOLD ME HE CHALLENGED THE OAU ON THIS POINT AT THE RECENT COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING IN DAR ES SALAAM BUT SWAPO AND THE SOUTH AFRICAN PAC AND ANC WERE ADAMANT. MOGWE ADDED THAT AFRICAN STATES SHOULD BE WORKING FOR THE INDEPENDENCE OF NAMIBIA AND NOT TRYING TO INSTALL ANY PARTICULAR POLITICAL GROUP IN POWER.

4. MOGWE COMMENTED ON THE VISIT OF CHIEF KAPUUNO TO THE RECENT COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE IN KINGSTON. HE SAID THAT PRESIDENT KHAMA HAD REFUSED TO MEET WITH CHIEF KAPUUNO BUT HAD OFFERED TO SEE HIM IN BOTSWANA. IN THIS CONNECTION MOGWE INDICATED HE DID NOT AGREE WITH THE OAU DECLARATION CALLING FOR A DENIAL OF INVITATIONS TO HOMELAND LEADERS TO VISIT AFRICAN STATES. MOGWE SAID HE ALSO TOOK EXCEPTION TO THIS DECLARATION AT THE RECENT DAR MEETING. IN PARTICULAR HE CALLED ATTENTION TO THE EFFORTS OF CHIEF BUTHELIZI, WHO WAS EXPOSING HIMSELF TO INSULTS DAILY IN WORKING FOR PEACEFUL CHANGE WHILE SOUTH AFRICAN PAC AND ANC LEADERS WERE SITTING IN LUSAKA "EATING CHICKEN OUT OF A BASKET".
BOLEN

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